

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for adjusting a ringing signal current in a subscriber line with a controlled ringing signal generator, [[a]] the ringing signal generator being coupled to the subscriber line and generating a ringing signal voltage, the ringing signal current being dropped across the subscriber line and a load of at least one subscriber coupled to the subscriber line ~~ringing signal generator which generates the ringing signal being connected to one end of the subscriber line and at least one subscriber being connected to another end of the subscriber line, the method comprising the following steps:~~

- (a) ~~detecting a ringing signal current of the ringing signal~~ flowing through the subscriber line;
- (b) ~~comparing the detected ringing signal current with a predetermined current value~~ stored current values, wherein each stored current value is associated with a stored voltage value in dependence of the number of subscribers coupled to the subscriber line and the length of the subscriber line in such a manner that, by adjusting a ringing signal voltage to a respective stored voltage value, the corresponding ringing signal current is equal to a predetermined optimum current value; [[and]]
- (c) ~~when the detected ringing signal current is greater than the predetermined current value, reducing a ringing signal voltage of the ringing signal in such a manner that the ringing signal current is equal to the predetermined current value, the ringing signal voltage being dropped across the subscriber line and a load of the at least one subscriber~~ setting the ringing signal voltage to a corresponding voltage value associated with the stored current value if the detected ringing signal current is greater than the predetermined optimum current value; and
- (d) wherein detecting the ringing signal current and adjusting the ringing signal voltage is carried out periodically or once per ringing signal.

Serial No.: 10/646,662

2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein the method also exhibits the following step comprising:~~
  - (a) ~~setting~~ adjusting a supply voltage of the ringing signal generator in dependence on the ringing signal voltage.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (New) The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the supply voltage for the ringing signal generator is adjusted in such a manner that the supply voltage is just sufficient for being able to transmit the ringing signal without distortion via the subscriber line.